

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Official Action dated October 2, 2008. Claims 1, 5, and 9 have been amended; as such claims 1-10 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, and 9 are independent claims.

No new matter has been added by this Amendment. Reconsideration and allowance is requested in view of the claim amendments and the following remarks.

Claim 9 has been only amended into independent form. Support for the amendment to claims 1 and 5 are illustrated in Fig. 3, element 14.

The Finality of the Present Office Action is Improper because the Examiner failed to properly address claims 9 and 10 added in the response filed on June 16, 2008

The response filed on June 16, 2008 includes new claims 9 and 10. The present office action fails to provide any explanation or evaluation of the content or status of claims 9 and 10. At present, claim 9 has only been amended to maintain claim 9 in its original unrejected form.

While finality may have been proper had the examiner provided a proper response addressing Applicant's new claims 9 and 10, the present action was made final improperly particularly because it failed to properly address Applicant's new claims.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner issue a new office action properly addressing all of Applicant's previous and present arguments and amendments including claims 9 and 10.

Alternatively, applicant would appreciate an indication that claims 9 and 10 are allowable, and assumes that claims 9 and 10 are allowable absent indication otherwise.

Allowable Subject Matter

At present, no rejection has been introduced regarding claims 9 and 10. As such, Applicant assumes claims 9 and 10 have been deemed to contain allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim

9 has been placed in allowable form. An indication of allowance regarding claim 9 is earnestly solicited.

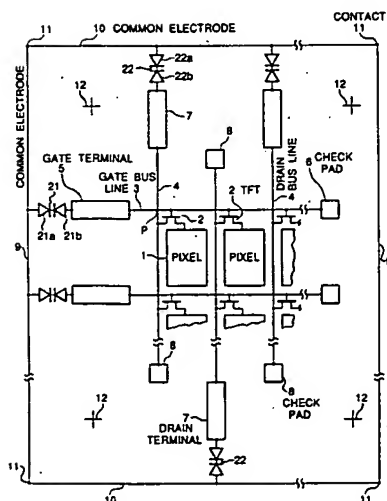
Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over U.S. Patent No. 5,220,443 to Noguchi et al. ("Noguchi").

Claim 1 recites:

*Open curve electronic circuit wiring laid so as to surround a main circuit formed and opened at one location on a board in order to protect the main circuit from static electricity and laid so as to include a cross region partially crossing other wiring **for connecting to wiring extending toward out side of the board** via an insulation film, comprising:*

*a start point terminal,
an end point terminal arranged on the start point terminal side via the cross region, and
a resistor element,
the resistor element being connected to the start point terminal side with respect to the cross region.*



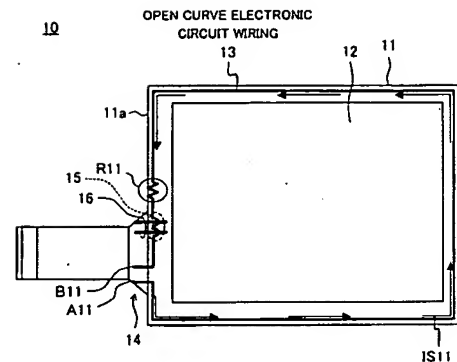
With respect to claim 1, Noguchi fails to teach or suggest a cross region partially crossing other wiring **for connecting to wiring extending toward out side of the board via an insulation film.**"

Noguchi discloses "gate terminal 5" as a start terminal, "drain terminal 7" as an end terminal, and "drain bus line 4" as other wiring. Further, the reference of Noguchi discloses that "non-linear resistor element 21" as a resistor element arranged at the start

terminal side as against “intersection P”.

However, the wiring disclosed in Noguchi is formed in order to drive TFTs 2, which control each pixel and not *to protect the main circuit from static electricity*. The bus line 4 is not equivalent to the *other wiring for connecting to wiring extending toward out side of the board via an insulation film*, recited in the claims. By example, flexible connector 14 (Fig. 3, right) illustrate wiring that extends towards the outside of the board.

FIG. 3



Accordingly, the wiring and implementation differs from the open circuit wiring of the present invention. The Office Action cites common electrode 10 in Noguchi as the “*electronic circuit wiring laid so as to surround a main circuit.*” However, neither common electrode 10 nor any other component in Noguchi qualifies as an “[o]pen curve electronic circuit... laid so as to include a cross region partially crossing other wiring for connecting to wiring extending toward out side of the board.” Instead, the common electrode 10 forms a complete closed circuit around the perimeter of the disclosed display matrix and contains no portion that extends towards the outside of the board.

Noguchi, therefore, fails to teach or suggest various features of independent claim 1. For similar reasons, independent claim 5 is also neither taught nor suggested by Noguchi (although claims 1 and 5 should be interpreted solely based upon the limitations set forth therein). Furthermore, at least for the reason disclosed above, claims 2-4 and 6-8 overcome Noguchi because they depend on independent claims 1 and 5.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SON-3138/SOH from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: December 30, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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